

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An information processing apparatus that  
5 communicates with a terminal connected to a network by  
using an HTTP protocol and performs processes requested  
by the terminal, the information processing apparatus  
comprising;

a cookie information setting part for setting  
10 a predetermined string, as cookie information, in an  
HTTP response corresponding to a first HTTP request  
sent from the terminal; and

a cookie information determining part for  
determining whether a second HTTP request includes the  
15 predetermined string as cookie information, wherein the  
second HTTP request is sent from the terminal after the  
first HTTP request is sent and indicates a start of a  
session between the terminal and the information  
processing apparatus.

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2. The information processing apparatus as  
25 claimed in claim 1, wherein, when the cookie

information determining part determines that the second  
HTTP request does not include the predetermined string,  
the information processing apparatus does not keep a  
memory area for storing information on any session  
5 between the terminal and the information processing  
apparatus.

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3. The information processing apparatus as  
claimed in claim 1, wherein, when the cookie  
information determining part determines that the second  
15 HTTP request does not include the predetermined string,  
the information processing apparatus does not include  
session identification information in an HTTP response  
that is a response for the second HTTP request, wherein  
the session identification information is information  
20 for identifying a session between the terminal and the  
information processing apparatus.

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4. The information processing apparatus as  
claimed in claim 1, wherein, when the cookie  
information determining part determines that the second  
HTTP request does not include the predetermined string,  
5 the information processing apparatus sends, to the  
terminal, a Web page for requesting to enable a cookie  
function in the terminal as a response to the second  
HTTP request.

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5. The information processing apparatus as  
claimed in claim 1, wherein, when the cookie  
15 information determining part determines that the second  
HTTP request includes the predetermined string, the  
information processing apparatus sends, to the terminal,  
an HTTP response including session identification  
information identifying a session between the terminal  
20 and the information processing apparatus as a response  
to the second HTTP request.

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6. The information processing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the information processing apparatus is an image forming apparatus.

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7. An information processing apparatus comprising:

10 a communication control part for controlling communications by using an HTTP protocol between the information processing apparatus and a terminal connected to a network;

15 a process execution part for executing a process corresponding to an HTTP request from the terminal received by the communication control part; and

20 a cookie information determining part for determining whether an HTTP request includes a predetermined string as cookie information, wherein the HTTP request indicates a start of a session between the information processing apparatus and the terminal;

25 wherein the process execution part sets a predetermined string in an HTTP response as cookie information, wherein the HTTP response is sent to the

terminal in response to an HTTP request sent from the terminal before the HTTP request that indicates the start of the session.

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8. The information processing apparatus as claimed in claim 7, wherein, when the cookie 10 information determining part determines that the HTTP request that indicates the start of the session does not include the predetermined string, the information processing apparatus does not keep a memory area for storing information on any session between the terminal 15 and the information processing apparatus.

20 9. An information processing apparatus comprising:

a communication control part for controlling communications by using an HTTP protocol between the information processing apparatus and a terminal 25 connected to a network;

a process execution part for executing a process corresponding to an HTTP request from the terminal received by the communication control part; and

5 a cookie information determining part for determining whether an HTTP request includes a predetermined string as cookie information, wherein the HTTP request indicates a start of a session between the information processing apparatus and the terminal;

10 wherein the communication control part sets a predetermined string in an HTTP response as cookie information, wherein the HTTP response is sent to the terminal in response to an HTTP request sent from the terminal before the HTTP request that indicates the 15 start of the session.

20 10. The information processing apparatus as claimed in claim 9, wherein the information processing apparatus includes a plurality of process execution parts, and the communication control part sets the predetermined string in an HTTP response by any of the 25 plurality of process execution parts as cookie

information.

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11. The information processing apparatus as  
claimed in claim 10, wherein, when the cookie  
information determining part determines that the HTTP  
request that indicates the start of the session does  
10 not include the predetermined string, the information  
processing apparatus does not keep a memory area for  
storing information on any session between the terminal  
and the information processing apparatus.

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12. A session management method used in an  
information processing apparatus that communicates with  
20 a terminal connected to a network by using an HTTP  
protocol and performs processes requested by the  
terminal, the session management method comprising:  
a cookie information setting step of setting  
a predetermined string, as cookie information, in an  
25 HTTP response corresponding to a first HTTP request

sent from the terminal; and  
a cookie information determining step of  
determining whether a second HTTP request includes the  
predetermined string as cookie information, wherein the  
5 second HTTP request is sent from the terminal after the  
first HTTP request is sent and indicates a start of a  
session between the terminal and the information  
processing apparatus.

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13. The session management method as claimed  
in claim 12, wherein, when the information processing  
15 apparatus determines that the second HTTP request does  
not include the predetermined string in the cookie  
information determining step, the information  
processing apparatus does not keep a memory area for  
storing information on any session between the terminal  
20 and the information processing apparatus.

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14. The session management method as claimed in claim 12, wherein, when the information processing apparatus determines that the second HTTP request does not include the predetermined string in the cookie 5 information determining step, the information processing apparatus does not include session identification information in an HTTP response that is a response for the second HTTP request, wherein the session identification information is information for 10 identifying a session between the terminal and the information processing apparatus.

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15. The session management method as claimed in claim 12, wherein, when the information processing apparatus determines that the second HTTP request does not include the predetermined string in the cookie 20 information determining step, the information processing apparatus sends, to the terminal, a Web page for requesting to enable a cookie function in the terminal as a response to the second HTTP request.

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16. The session management method as claimed  
in claim 12, wherein, when the information processing  
5 apparatus determines that the second HTTP request  
includes the predetermined string in the cookie  
information determining step, the information  
processing apparatus sends, to the terminal, an HTTP  
response including session identification information  
10 identifying a session between the terminal and the  
information processing apparatus as a response to the  
second HTTP request.

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17. The session management method as claimed  
in claim 12, wherein the information processing  
apparatus is an image forming apparatus.

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